

2021 COLUMBUS DISTRICTING COMMISSION

Reapportionment Plan for Council and
School Board District Boundaries

October 14, 2021

Agenda

2021 COLUMBUS
DISTRICTING COMMISSION

- Welcome & Introductions – Nancy Boren
- Swearing-in of Districting Commission Members – Mayor Skip Henderson
- Election of Officers
 - Chairperson
 - Vice Chair
- Purpose of Commission & Background Information
 - Requirements of the City Charter
 - Review of Existing City Council Districts
 - 2020 Census Data
 - Mapping the Districts – Options
- Commission Discussion of Reapportionment Efforts
- Next Meeting
- Adjourn

Swearing-in of Districting Commission Members

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Mayor Skip Henderson

Election of Officers

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- Chairperson
- Vice-Chairperson

Purpose of Commission & Background Information

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- Requirements of the City Charter
- Review of Existing City Council Districts
- 2020 Census Data
- Mapping the Districts – Options

Requirements of the City Charter

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- Section 6-102 of the City Charter requires the following:
 - Formulation of a 17-member commission
 - Six months after the federal population census is released
 - The Commission is to recommend a plan for the reapportionment of the Council/School Board districts
 - Census data was released on August 26, 2021
 - Deadline is February 26, 2022 (**IF** the Council ordinance is **NOT** adopted in 2021)
 - The report must contain the following:
 - District boundaries that are contiguous and compact
 - Boundary lines shall be based on center lines of streets or other well-defined boundaries
 - A reasonable effort to have the same amount of population in each district
 - A map of proposed districts as well as district descriptions
 - Report shall be filed with the Clerk of Council and treated as a proposed ordinance to the City Council

Requirements of the City Charter

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- Upon receiving the report, Council must:
 - Follow its procedures for adopting the proposed ordinance, which includes the publication of the map and the descriptions of each district
 - Enact a redistricting ordinance within six months
 - Failure to enact an ordinance within this time frame automatically causes the Commission's report to be enacted
- Redistricting ordinances do not apply to any elections within six months of adoption

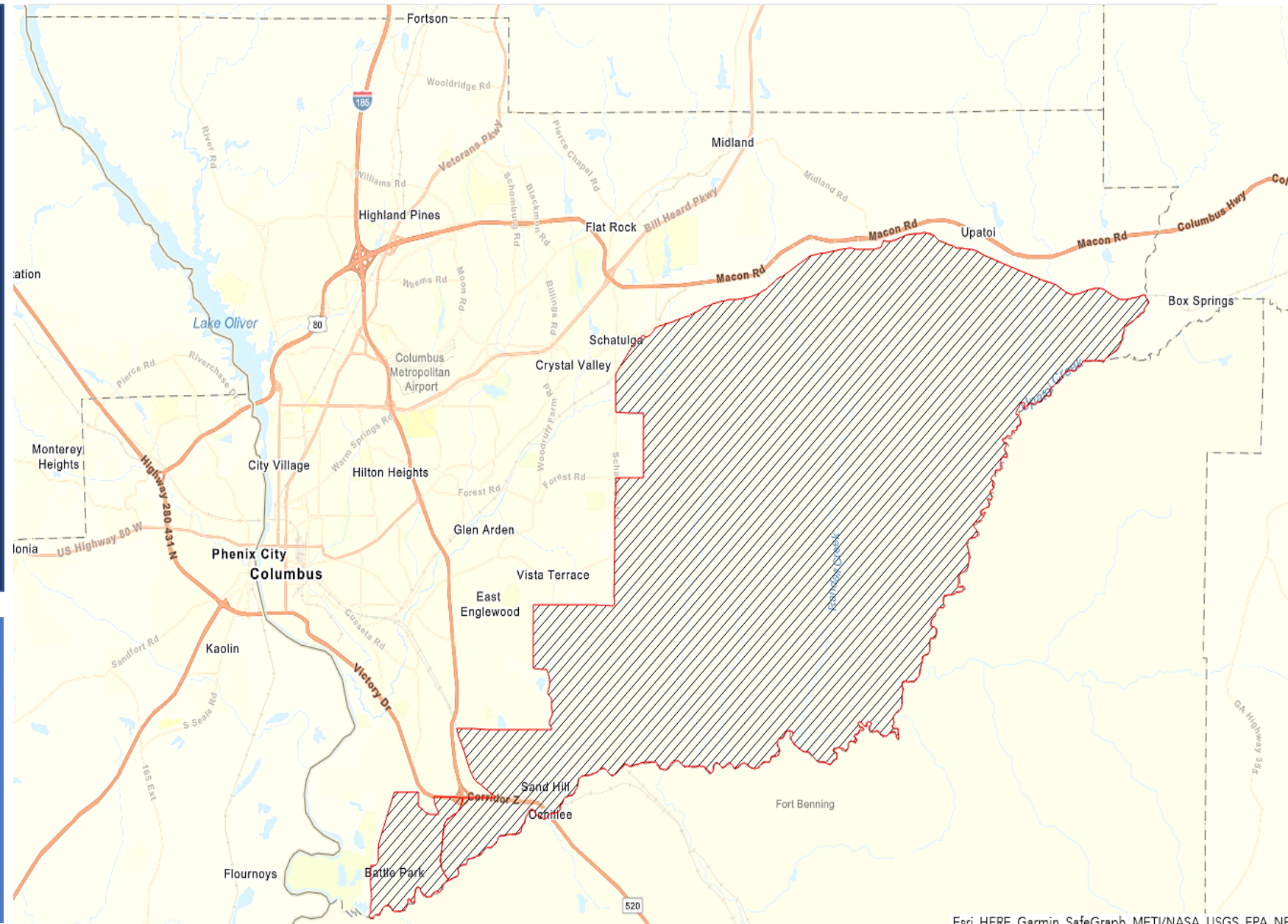
Other Factors To Consider

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- Legal Requirements
 - Compliance with US and GA Constitutions
 - Compliance with the Voting Rights Act of 1965
 - Potential for minority representation on City Council
 - Cannot dilute the minority population strength through newly reconstructed districts
 - Once adopted, new Council districts will have to be submitted to the Department of Justice
 - Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment
 - “One Person, One Vote”
 - Georgia Senate Bill 177

2020 Census Data

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2020 Census Data

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2020 Census For Columbus

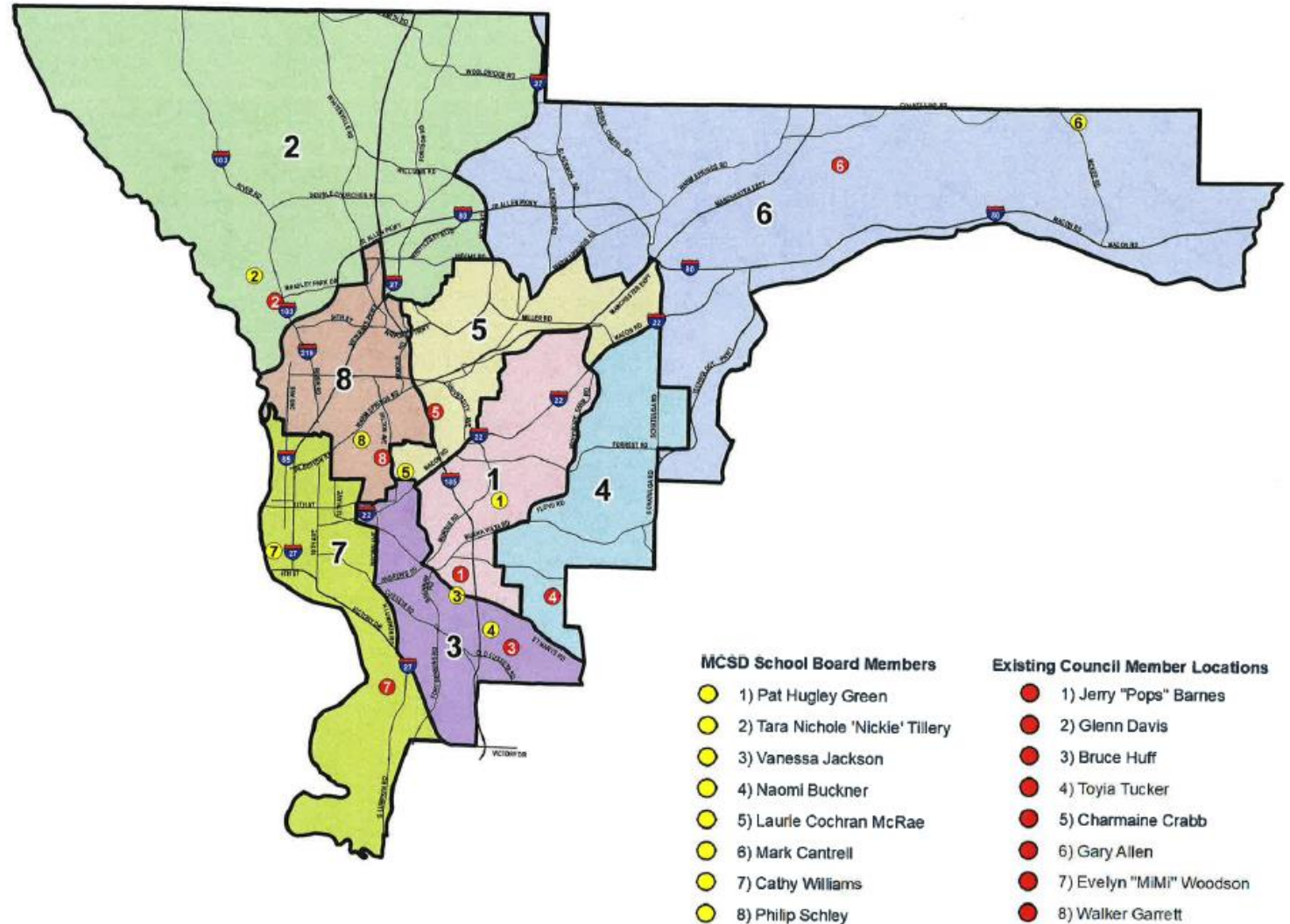
- Total Population 206,922
- Fort Benning -7,095
- Actual Total 199,814

Review of Existing City Council/School Board Districts

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Existing Council Districts

This material is made available as a public service. Maps and data are to be used for reference purposes only. The data contained is subject to constant change. Map information is believed to be correct, but is not guaranteed.

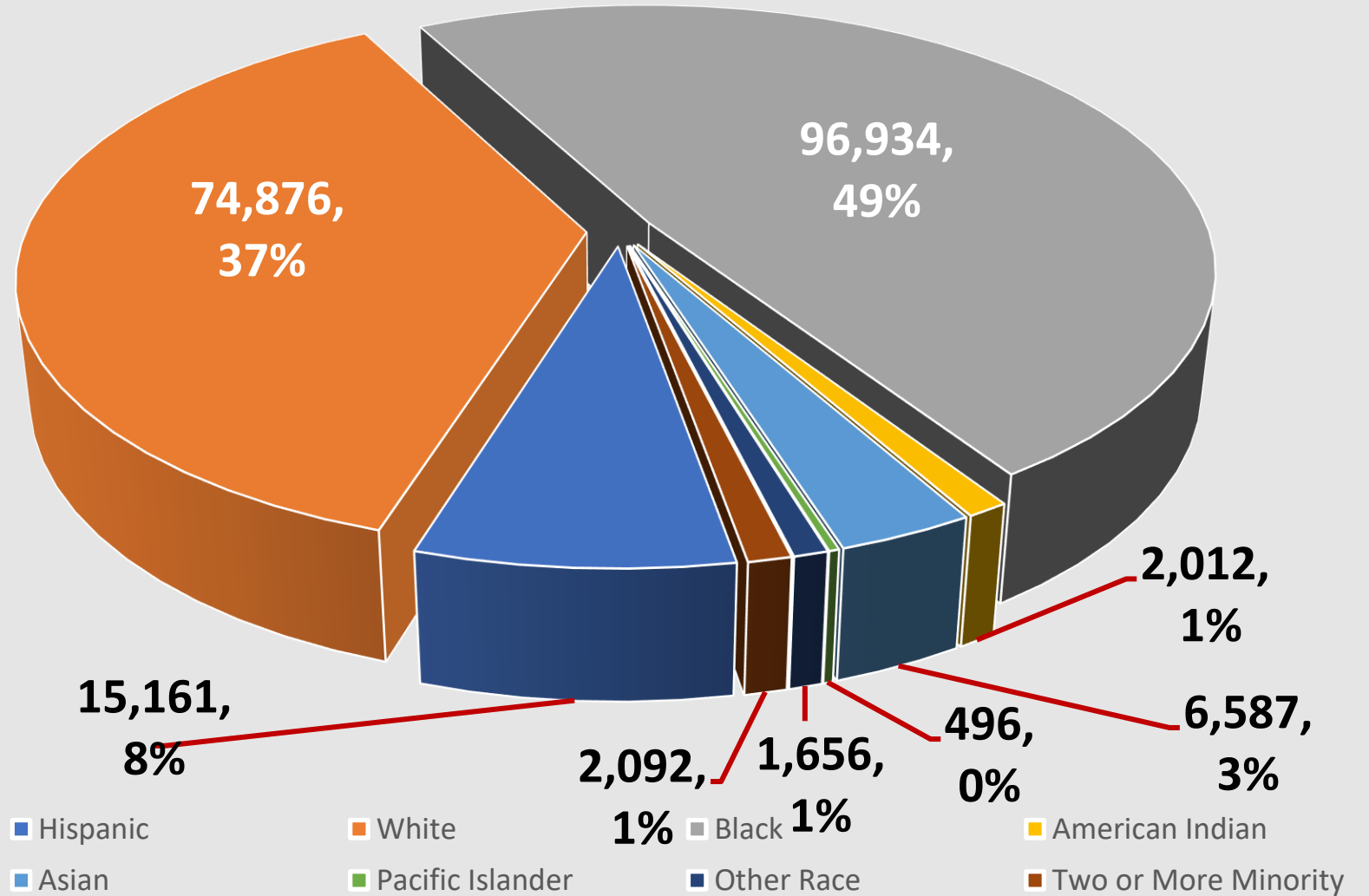


2020 Census Data

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2020 Population

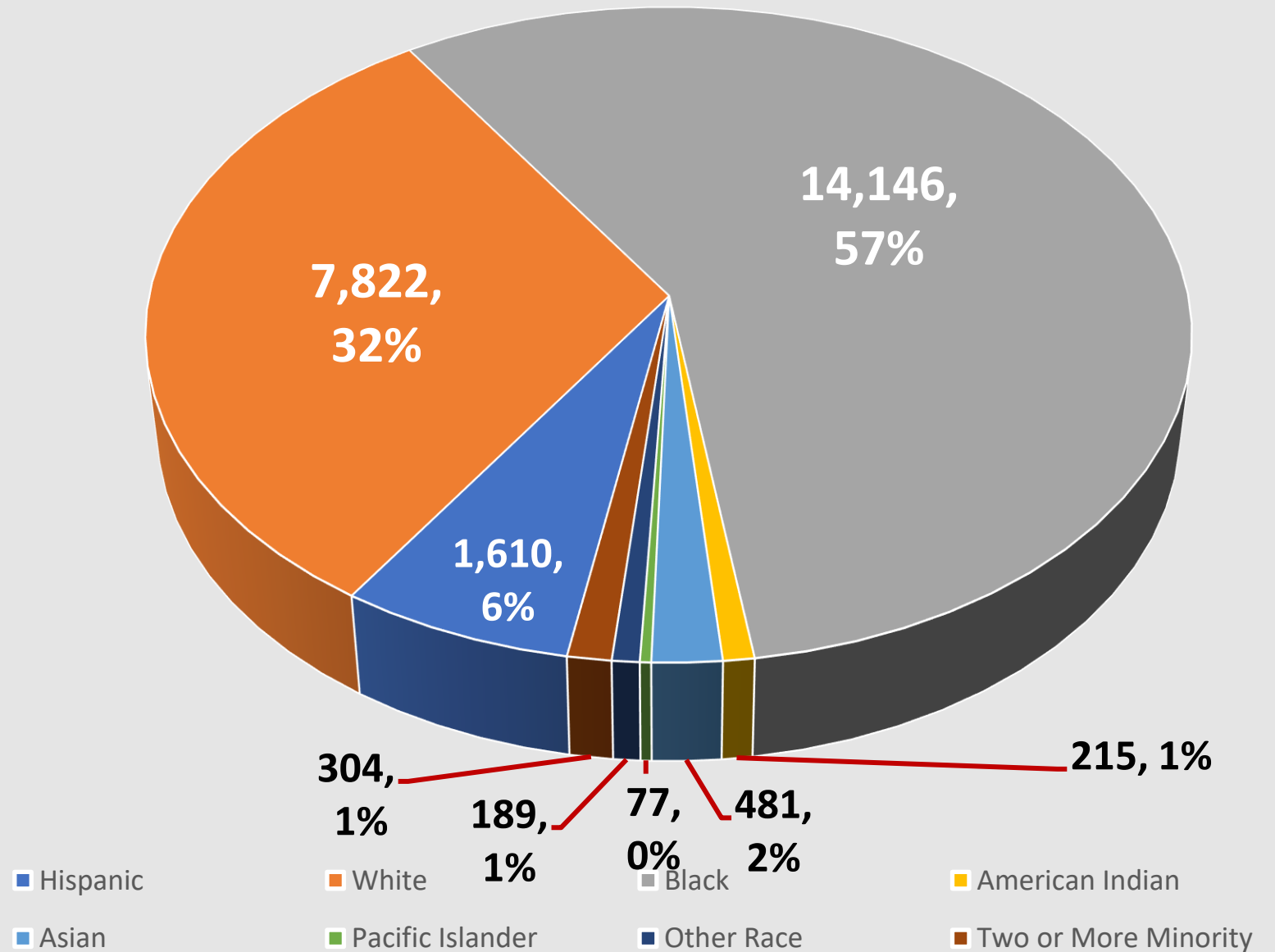
Does Not Include Fort Benning



2020 Census Data District 1

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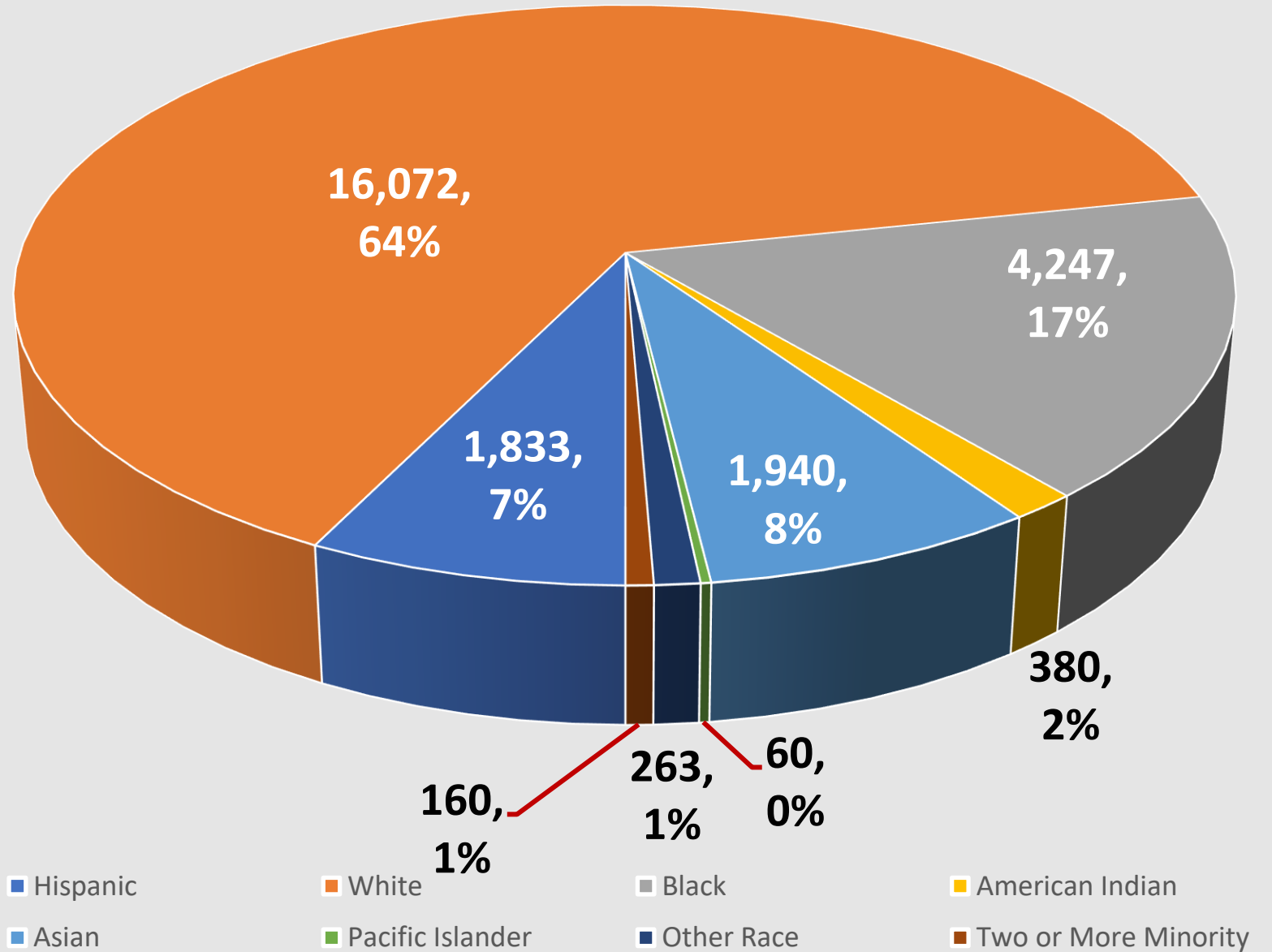
2020 Population



2020 Census Data District 2

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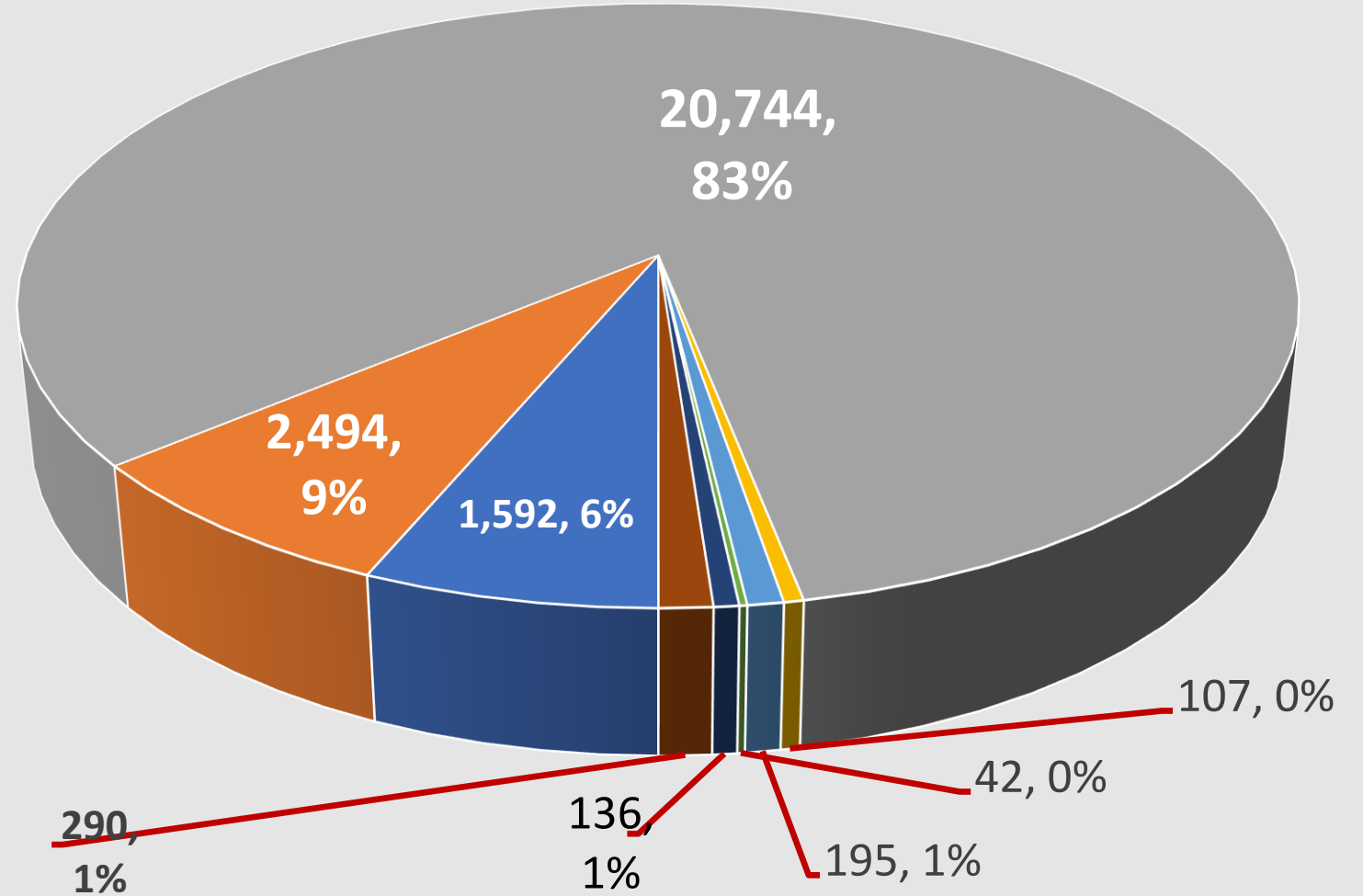
2020 Population



2020 Census Data District 3

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2020 Population

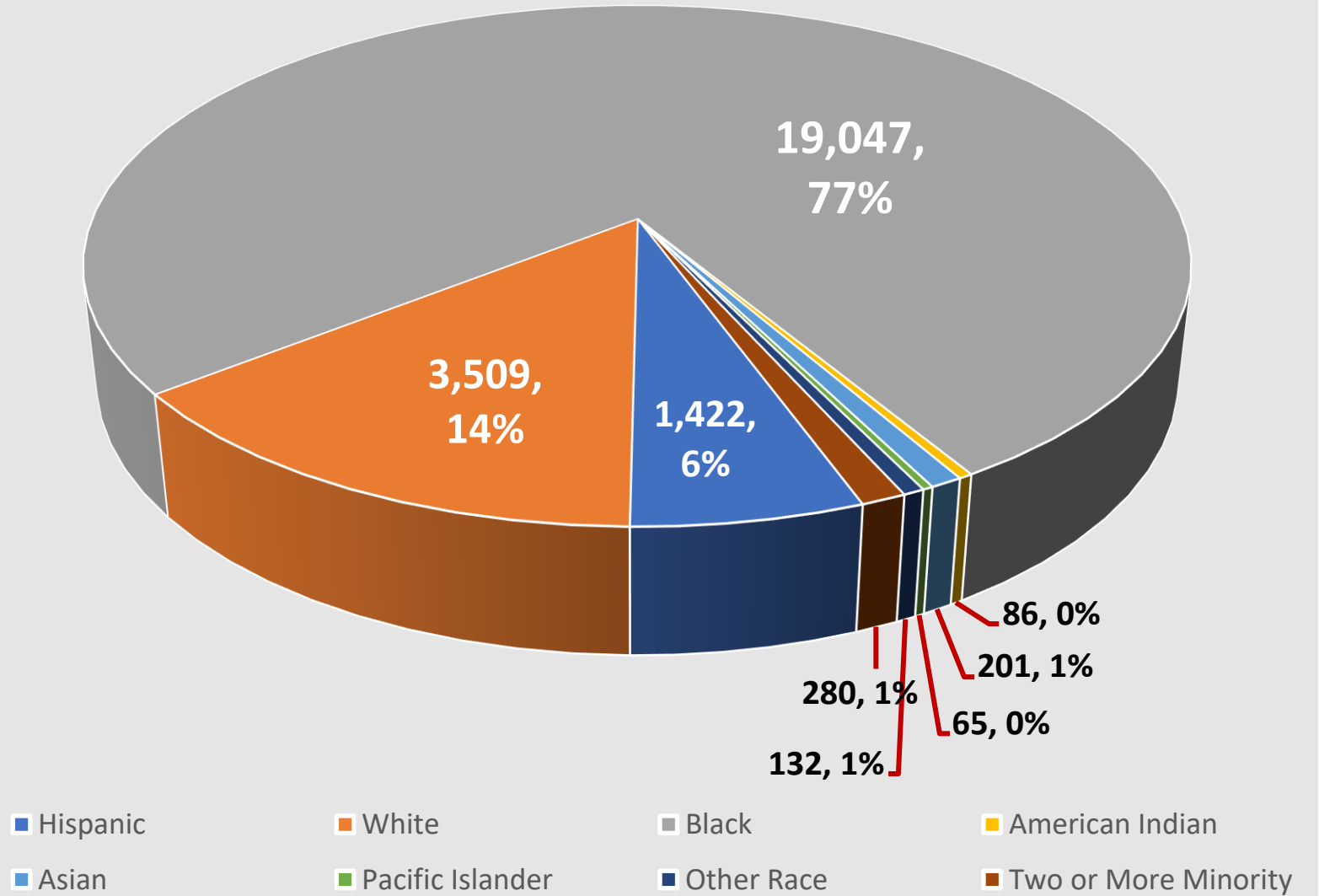


■ Hispanic ■ White ■ Black ■ American Indian ■ Asian ■ Pacific Islander ■ Other Race ■ Two or More Minority

2020 Census Data District 4

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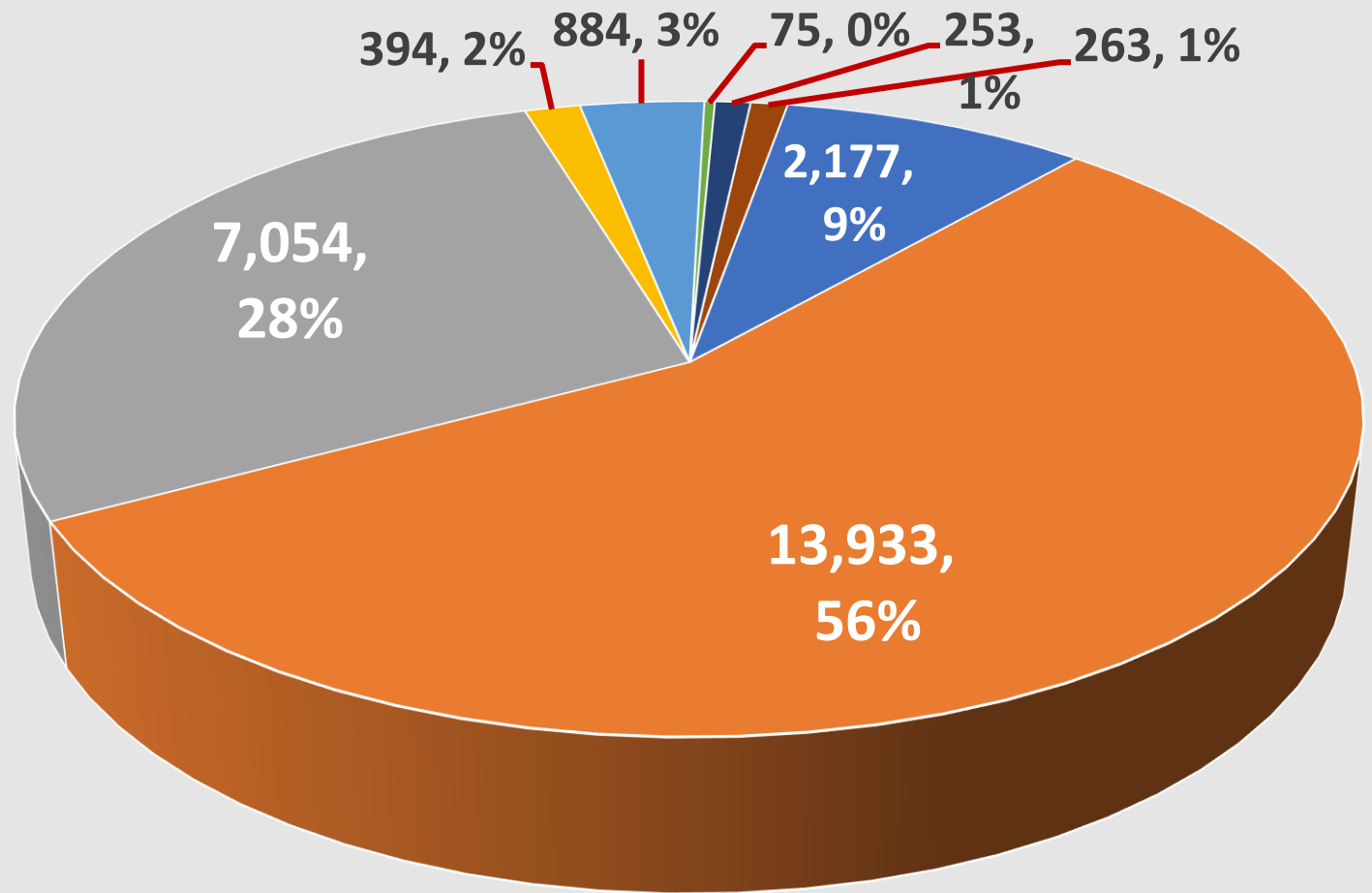
2020 Population



2020 Census Data District 5

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2020 Population



Hispanic

White

Black

American Indian

Asian

Pacific Islander

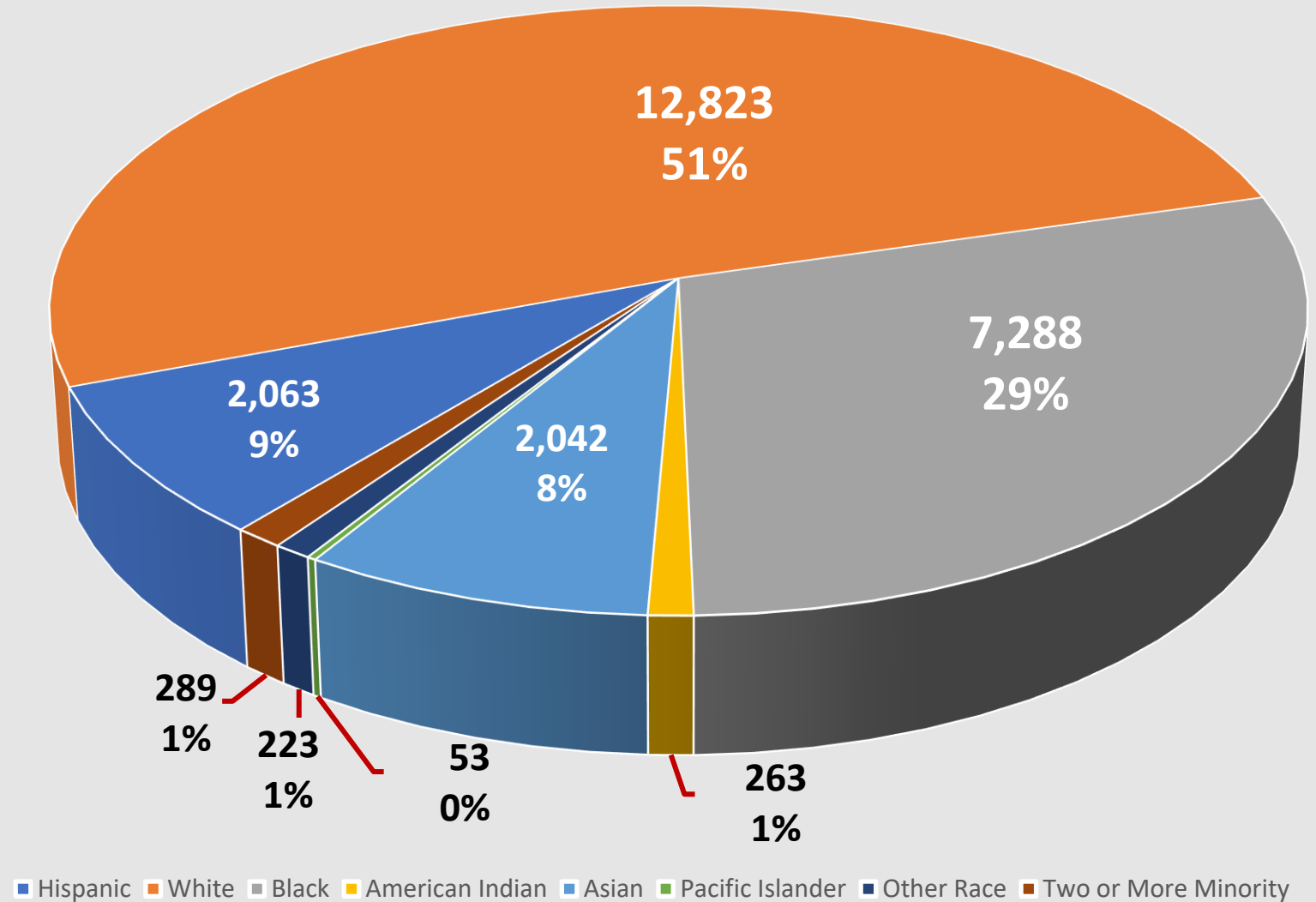
Other Race

Two or More Minority

2020 Census Data District 6

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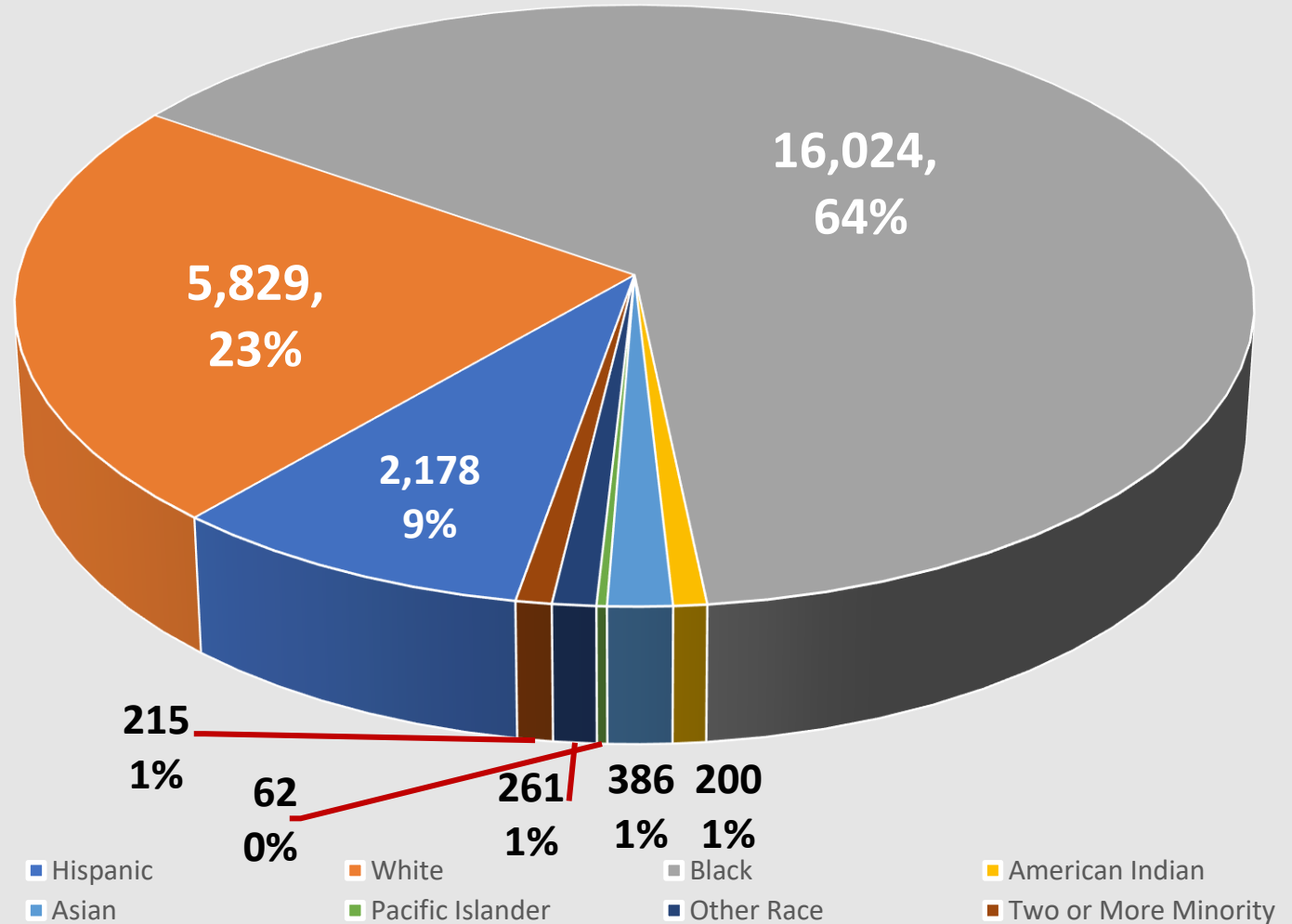
2020 Population



2020 Census Data District 7

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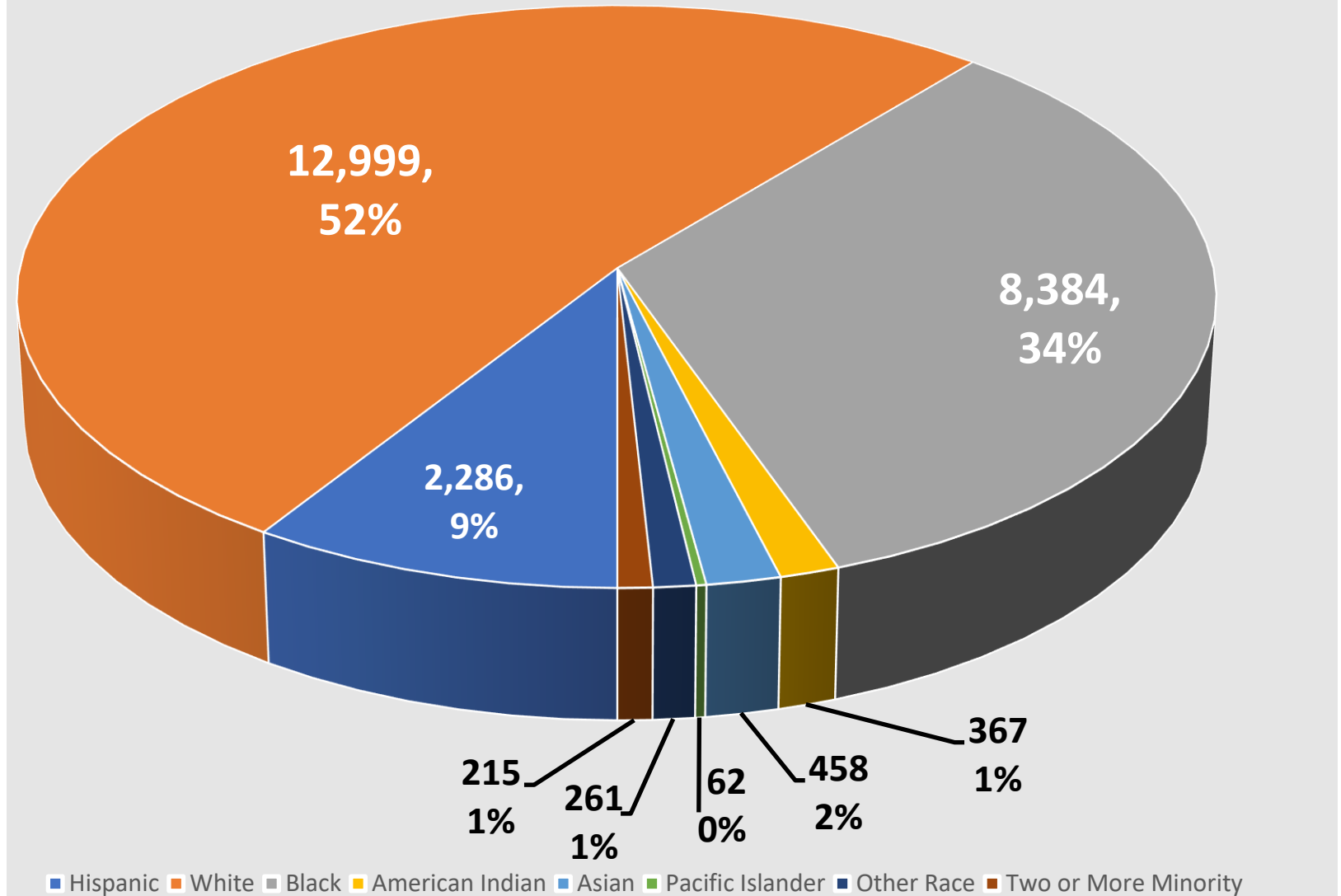
2020 Population



2020 Census Data District 8

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2020 Population



District Population Goals

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- Each Council/School District should have the same amount of population:
 - 199,814 citizens (excludes Fort Benning)

$$\frac{199,814 \text{ (2020 Columbus Population*)}}{8 \text{ Council Districts}} =$$

24,977

Ideal Population Number
Per Council/School Board District

* Population figure does not include Fort Benning

Actual District Population Range

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- Each district will NOT be able to meet an “ideal” population range
- State Legislative & Congressional Reapportionment Office recommends a variance or allowance of + or – 1%
- A variance of 250 + or – would be acceptable
- The population range for each district should be between 24,727 and 25,227

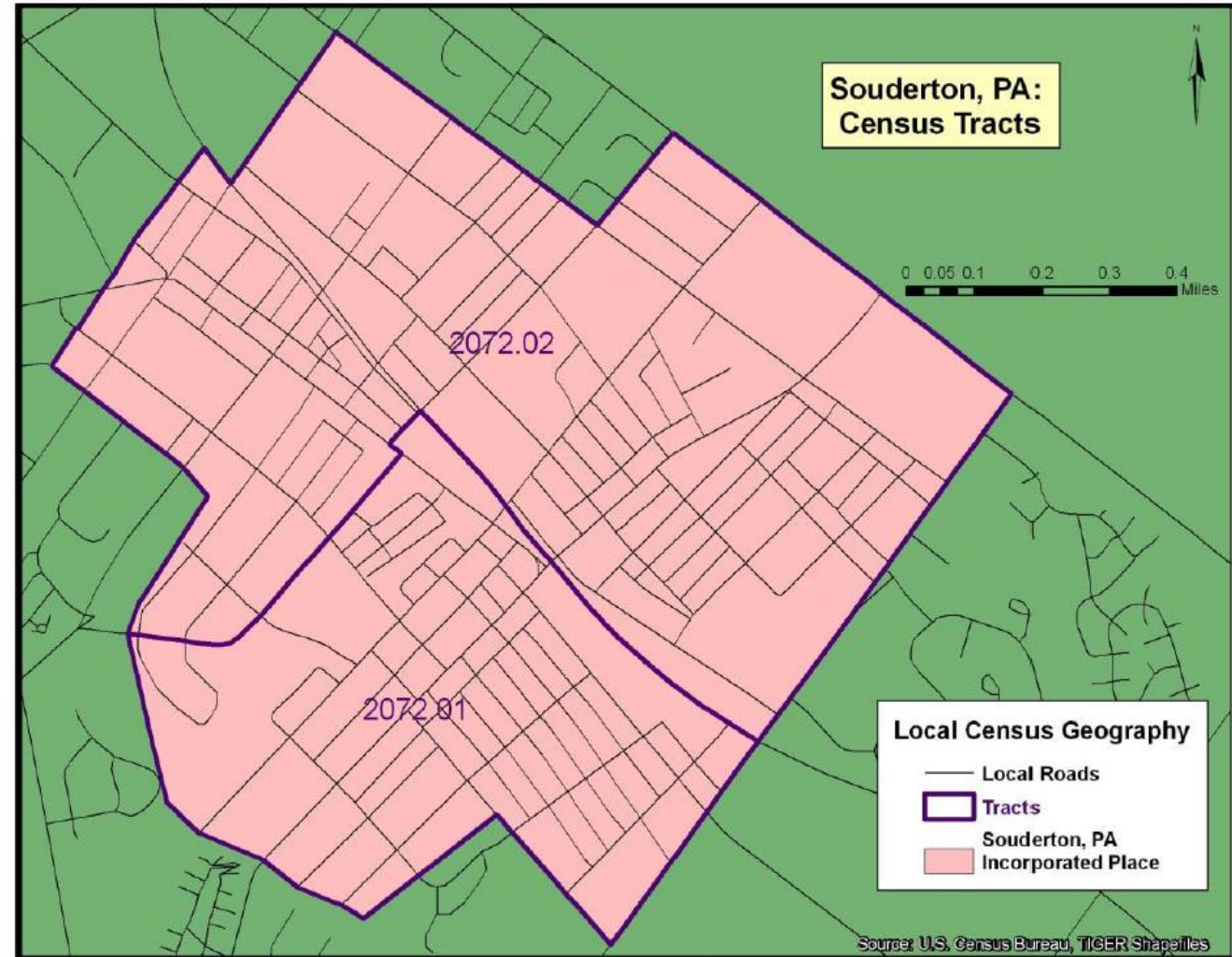
Mapping The Districts

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- Potential District Scenarios to Consider:
 - Scenario A
 - Does **NOT** take into account existing districts or incumbents; this option starts at the eastern county line and moves east to west until target population is met
 - Scenario B
 - Meets target population percentage and withstands review by the state legislative reapportionment office
 - Scenario C
 - A hybrid of Scenario B, with an attempt to follow major roads and water features to create smoother boundaries
- The state is seeking incumbent protection as best as possible

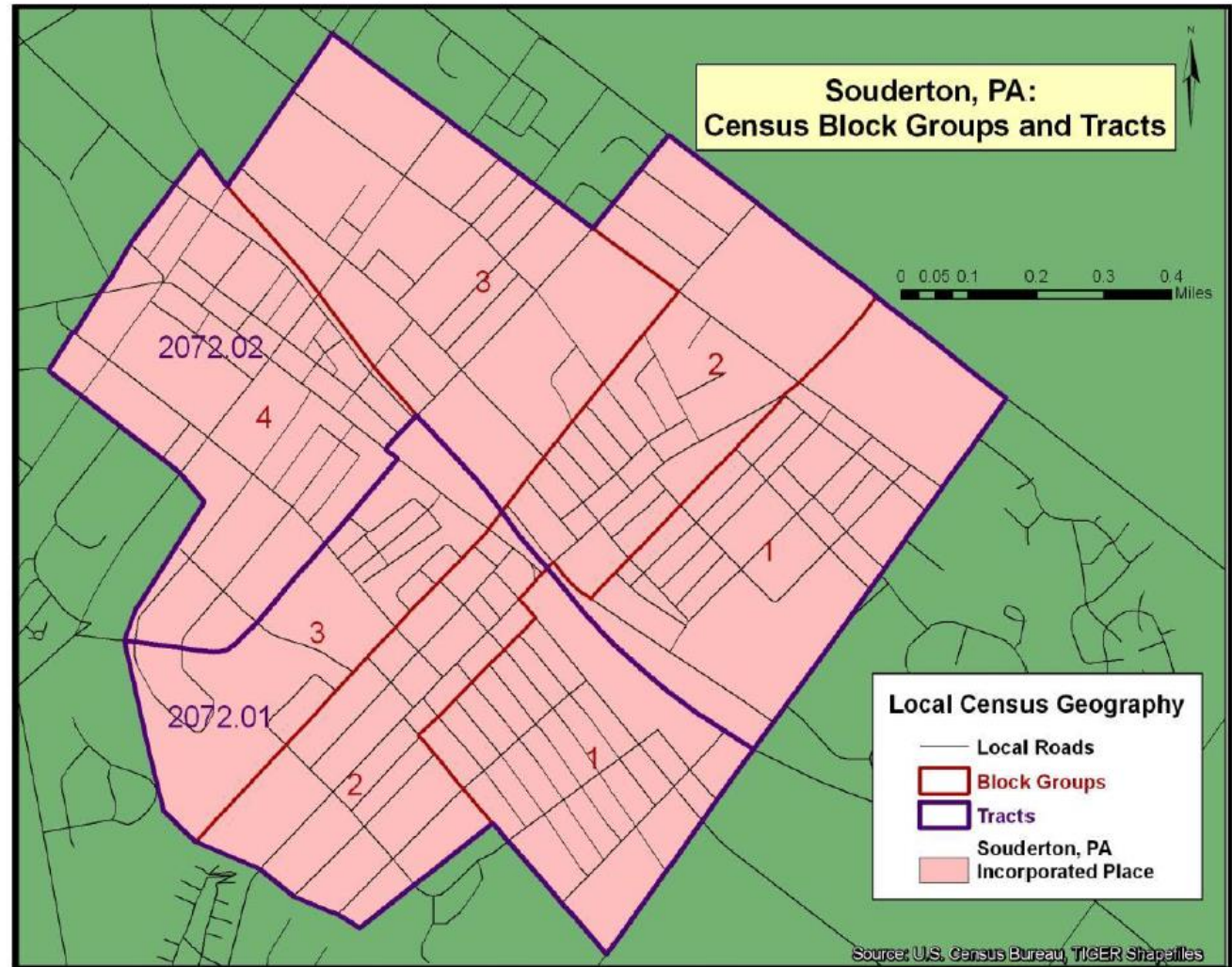
Mapping The Districts Census Tracts

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Mapping The Districts Census Block Groups & Tracts

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Commission Discussion of Reapportionment Efforts

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Questions?

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Contact Information

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